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**BILLY WHISKERS**

By FRANCES MONTGOMERY

You remember that Billy was watching an ambulance which was stopped in front of a drug store, where the driver was getting supplies. Billy was trying to find his regiment at the front, and was hoping to catch a ride to the trenches on the ambulance.

Sure enough, Billy's surmise was correct. The man came out of the store and loaded a large amount of bandages into the ambulance and, getting into the seat, started the motor of the ambulance. Seeing his opportunity, Billy jumped into the rear end of the ambulance, and away they went toward the battle.

Billy was excited, as you may imagine, for now he felt that he was to take an actual part in the battle.

The ambulance ran along at a rapid rate, bumping over the rough road and through deep shell holes, so that Billy almost fell out of the back end. Once he would have fallen out, but he locked his horns in the straps that were hanging inside the vehicle and hung on with all his might.

Suddenly the ambulance stopped. Billy jumped out gingerly. A terrible scene met his eyes. Wounded soldiers, members of his own regiment, were lying on the ground, their wounds being dressed by men with red crosses on their arms.

Billy's kind heart was filled with emotion to see so many of his own friends wounded. But this emotion was overcome by his desire to do something to help.

"If there are this many here," said Billy to himself, "there must be more men lying on the battlefield."

And away he went as fast as his goat legs could carry him. He saw stretcher-bearers carrying wounded soldiers to the dressing station, and ran rapidly in the direction from which these men were coming, for he knew they were coming from the district where most of the wounded were to be found.

Suddenly Billy heard a low moan coming from a deep shell hole. "Here is a wounded soldier," thought Billy, "and at last I can be of some service."

He plunged headlong into the shell hole, and there in front of him, his face easily recognizable under the glare of the star shells, was Billy's very own master, with his leg bent under him.

He ran his long horns under his master as gently as he could and carefully turned him over on his face so he could straighten out his leg. When it was straight he as quickly and carefully turned him over on his back, so he could recover his strength and rest more comfortably.

"Thank you, old fellow. You certainly have more sense than nine-tenths of the human beings I have met."

"Oh, if I only had a first-aid kit strapped around my neck, like the dogs have!" thought Billy. That gave him an idea, and before his master knew what he was up to, Billy started on a fast run off the battlefield.

Perhaps you, my little readers, may wonder what made him start off in such a hurry. I will tell you. It had flashed through his mind that somewhere on the field of battle he could find several police dogs belonging to the Red Cross with their aid kits, and he had gone to find one and bring it to help his master.

While running in the darkness, keeping a sharp lookout for dogs, trained nurses and stretcher-bearers, he saw some queer looking object coming toward him. It was moving slowly, but it seemed to him to have no shape, as he could see neither head nor legs. Still it came slowly toward him. Just a black, moving mass. It was enough to frighten one, but Billy, being a brave goat, and one with much curiosity, stood still to watch its approach. All of a sudden half of it dropped to the ground, and then Billy saw that it was a police dog carrying a man in his mouth. The dog had the man by the clothes on his chest, and was carrying him with his head hanging down one side of his mouth and his legs on the other. That is why Billy could not see any head or shape, for the dog holding the body in his mouth, nothing of the dog's head could be seen—only his two short ears sticking up.

"You certainly gave me a start," said Billy to the dog, "for I thought I was seeing some new kind of animal without head or legs coming toward me."

**He Meets Duke**  
"Why, if it isn't Billy, the mascot!" exclaimed the dog.

"And you, Duke!" exclaimed Billy in turn. "You are just the one dog of all others that I should like to meet at this time. Do come with me for a minute and give my master some stimulants out of your canteen, and then you can come back to your man if you want to, though, sad as it may seem, I don't believe he is going to need you any more. I think his spirit has taken its flight. Who was he?"

"I don't know—just one of the wounded I saw trying to crawl along. And as I have unusually strong jaws, neck and back, I was helping him along. Few dogs can carry the heavy weight in their mouths that I can."

When they both made sure that the man was dead, they scampered back to Billy's master.

When they reached him, they saw him being carried off the field on a stretcher by the Red Cross carriers. So they turned back to help others. Long into the night the two worked together, Billy lifting and moving the men, while Duke stood in front of them so they could help themselves to the things in his kit. They saved the lives of many that night by their timely aid.

The next day Billy was quietly stretched by some soldiers, listening to them relate how the struggle was running in favor of the Allies and what each one had done, when an or-

derly appeared and gave orders for Billy's master to bring the goat to headquarters immediately.

"What is up, fellows, do you think? You don't suppose he has been up to some mischief in the General's tent, do you, and the General is going to order him shot?"

"Oh, it can't be that! The General seems too fond of him."

So Billy, with his master limping a little from his twisted ankle of the night before, hurried to headquarters.

**Honored**

When there, the General, surrounded by his officers, told Billy's master that he had made Billy a member of the Red Cross Police Dog Club for his bravery and work on the battlefield, and that hereafter he was to wear a white band with a big red cross on it across the chest, like the dogs do, and also to have a kit of first-aid things around his neck.

Billy's master thanked him profusely for the honor he had conferred on his goat, and was saying adieu when Billy, as if he had understood that the General had conferred an honor on him, walked up to within three feet of him and, looking him straight in the eye, bowed three times and then bowed his head and backed away from the General, just as if he had been trained to do it.

"Did you see that?" asked the General of his staff. "That goat is more than half human!" to which they all readily agreed. And each one of them then related in turn to the General the wonderfully smart things that Billy had done since joining the regiment.

"He must march with us at the head of our regiment, next the colors, the first battle we go into," said the General.

Billy was so delighted with his Red Cross badge, it's not certain that he ran to find Duke and tell him all about how they had been presented to him.

[In the next story Billy carries the flag right into the thick of battle.]

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**SUMMONS**

In the Justice's Court of Lomita Township, County of Los Angeles, State of California.

L. J. HUNTER, Justice, Laurence M. Crowell, Plaintiff, vs. James L. Jenkins, C. A. Raymond, F. M. Tourtelotte, Richard S. Jenkins, Defendants.

Summons  
The People of the State of California Send Greetings to: James L. Jenkins, C. A. Raymond, F. M. Tourtelotte, Richard S. Jenkins, Defendants.

You are hereby directed to appear in an action brought against you by the above named plaintiff in the Justice's Court of Lomita Township, Los Angeles County, State of California, and to answer before the Justice at his office at 1113 Narbonne St., Lomita, California, in said in, within five days (exclusive of the day of service) after the service on you of this Summons, if served within the Township in which this action is brought; or, if served out of said Township, but within said County, within ten days, or within twenty days if served elsewhere. And you are hereby notified that unless you so appear and answer said complaint, as above required, said plaintiff will cause your default to be entered and take judgment for any money or damages demanded in the complaint, as arising upon contract, or will apply to the Court for relief demanded in the complaint, together with the costs of suit.

Given under my hand this 6th day of March, 1924.

L. J. HUNTER, Justice of the Peace of Lomita Township, County of Los Angeles, State of California.

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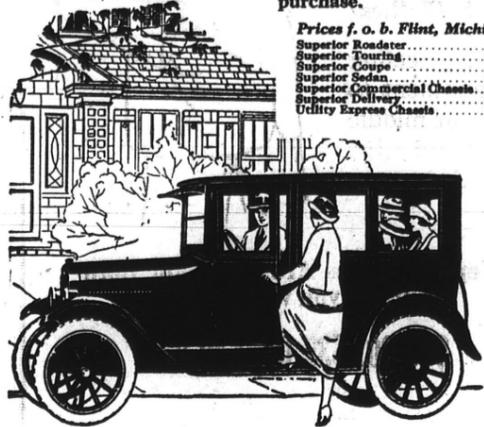
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